GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3070
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2017
Extremely Low Ground Water Table Areas
Paswan Shri Kamlesh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Authority has identified areas in the country with extremely low ground water table levels and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the authority has made any policy provisions to create rain water harvesting plants in these areas; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)
(a) to (c) As per latest Ground Water Resource Assessment (2013), carried out jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments, the Annual Replenishable Ground Water Resource of the Country is 447 billion cubic meter (BCM) and the Net Annual Ground Water Availability is 411 BCM. Out of which, 228 BCM is used for irrigation purpose and 25 BCM for domestic and industrial uses. The Stage of Ground Water Development, which is the ratio of Annual Ground Water Draft and Net Ground Water Availability is 62%. Out of 6584 assessment units in the Country, 1034 units have been categorized as "Over-exploited", 253 units as "Critical", 681 units as "Semi-critical" and 4520 units as "Safe".

CGWA has issued advisories to States and UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge to ground water / rain water harvesting. So far, 30 States/UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory by enacting laws or by formulating rules & regulations or by including provisions in building bye-laws or through suitable Government Orders.

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